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TELEGRAM INFORMATION REPORT TELEGRAM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM REPORT NO. TDCS-3/562,014
 SUBJECT RECOMMENDATION BY CABINET OFFICERS THAT NHU BE MADE PRIME MINISTER DATE DISTR. 15 OCTOBER 1963
 PRECEDENCE ROUTINE
 DATE OF INFO. EARLY OCTOBER 1963 REFERENCES IN 39851
 PLACE & DATE ACQ. VIETNAM, SAIGON (8 OCTOBER 1963)
 APPRAISAL SEE BELOW FIELD REPORT NO. FVS-9764

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE

APPRAISAL: THE CABINET OFFICERS MAY HAVE MADE SUCH A RECOMMENDATION.

1. SUMMARY. ON 8 OCTOBER 1963

ON 5 OCTOBER VICE PRESIDENT NGUYEN NGOC THO THAT AT A MEETING OF CABINET OFFICERS IN EARLY OCTOBER IT WAS DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT NGO DINH NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER. THAT THIS PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD BE VOTED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

2. ON 5 OCTOBER VICE PRESIDENT THO THAT IN EARLY OCTOBER HE HAD CALLED A MEETING OF ALL CABINET MEMBERS TO

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GROUP 1
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declassification

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IN 39851

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DISCUSS THE STATUS OF NGO DINH NHU IN THE GOVERNMENT. THO
SAID THAT THE CABINET DECIDED TO RECOMMEND TO PRESIDENT DIEM THAT
NHU BE APPOINTED PRIME MINISTER, REASONING THAT IF THE PRESIDENT
DID NOT INTEND TO REDUCE NHU'S INFLUENCE IN GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
THE LATTER'S APPOINTMENT TO AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POST WOULD
AT LEAST MAKE HIM ACCOUNTABLE FOR HIS ACTIONS.

2. ON 8 OCTOBER [] THAT IF THE PRESIDENT ACCEPTED
THIS SUGGESTION, A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT WOULD BE REQUIRED BUT
THAT THIS WOULD POSE NO PROBLEM AS THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WOULD
VOTE THE CHANGE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

3. FIELD DISSEM. STATE ARMY NAVY AIR USMACV MAAG USOM
USIS 9TH FLD STA 2ND AIR DIV CINPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF.

END OF MESSAGE

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CONTINUATION OF TDCS INFORMATION REPORT